GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH)
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1655
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2017
Efficacy of Traditional Medicines for Curing Cancer
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to collate and filter the claims about curing cancer from the use of traditional systems of medicine and to promote science validated traditional techniques for curing of cancer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken or intends to take initiatives to subject Indian traditional systems of medicine to rigorous scientific trials, in order to establish their efficacy in relation with the standard modern medical therapies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)
(a) & (b): Ministry of AYUSH has set-up five autonomous Research Councils, namely, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS), Central Council for Research in Homoeopahty (CCRH), Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Central Council for Research in Siddha (CCRS) and Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) as apex bodies for formulation, coordination, development and promotion of research activities in traditional medicine systems for various diseases including Cancer. CCRAS evaluates the claims received under a programme namely 'Local Health Traditions' from different claimants. The claims received are screened at different levels viz. internal Screening Committee, Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) etc. and attain missing information if any through a structured claim format. Based on the scientific merit, the suitable claims as recommended by SAB are taken up for Scientific validation viz Standardizations, safety & Clinical Trials. This procedure is also applicable to the claims related to cancer.

(c) & (d): Initiatives in this regard are taken by the aforesaid Councils with details, as under:-

CCRAS: The Council has considered a claim from a claimant and developed a drug named Carctol, for which standardization, safety have been completed and clinical trials have been initiated in collaboration with Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai.
CCRUM: Council has initiated a collaborative study with Institute of Cytology and Preventive Oncology (ICPO), Noida (ICMR) to validate the efficacy of Unani pharmacopoeial drugs in the prevention of Cancer of cervix.
CCRH: Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH) has initiated pre-clinical research studies as homoeopathy drugs in collaboration with Bose Institute, Kolkata to evaluate side effects of chemotherapy in cancer patients.
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